17th July 1953]

Retrenchment in the Madras Electric Tramways Company, Limited.

* 621 *Q.*—SRI S. PAKKIRISWAMI PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether the Government took any action to stop retrenchment in the Madras Electric Tramways Company, Limited, and to what effect?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" The Company applied for permision to retrench 290 workers to the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, and the Tribunal permitted retrenchment of only 132 workers but the company closed all work on 12th April 1953. The Government have ordered the prosecution of the management and also referred the dispute regarding the closure of the place of employment to the workers to a Special Industrial Tribunal for adjudication."

Modification of Malayalam script.

* 622 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government received recently any communication or report from the Travancore-Cochin State or from the Travancore University with regard to the modification of Malayalam script?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—" No."

Relief to the fishermen in Malabar coast.

* 623 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government have got any scheme with them to help the fishermen living in the coastal areas of Malabar so as to relieve the present acute unemployment prevailing among them?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA:—" The Member evidently refers to the failure of the fishing season and the consequent unemployment in the West Coast. It has been ascertained that there is distress in the entire coast of Valiangode due to want of catches for the last few months consequent on the disappearance of shoals of mackeral throughout the coast this year. But the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Calicut, has reported in January this year, that there are catches of Sardines on a minor scale, and that this is a hopeful sign. It has also been ascertained from the Director of Fisheries that the causes for the failure of the fishing season are only temporary."

Forfeiture of the book called ' Yerra Jandalu '.

* 624 *Q.*—SRI M. VEERABHADRAM: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether orders were passed by the Government for the forfeiture of a book called " Yerra Jandalu " (Red flag) ; and

(*b*) if so, what were the reasons for the same?